

W. Broomes, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, Rebecca Grady Jennings, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky, and Robert Earl Wier, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

## INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 24 public bills, H.R. 4581–4604; and 7 resolutions, H. Res. 648–654, were introduced. **Pages H9756–57**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H9757–58**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4015, to improve the quality of proxy advisory firms for the protection of investors and the U.S. economy, and in the public interest, by fostering accountability, transparency, responsiveness, and competition in the proxy advisory firm industry (H. Rept. 115–451);

H.R. 4324, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to make certifications with respect to United States and foreign financial institutions' aircraft-related transactions involving Iran, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–452); and

H.R. 1638, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on the estimated total assets under direct or indirect control by certain senior Iranian leaders and other figures, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–453, Part 1).

**Page H9756**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Brat to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H9711**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:05 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H9717**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Steven E. Boes, Boys Town, Boys Town, Nebraska. **Page H9717**

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 215 yeas to 205 nays with two answering "present", Roll No. 668. **Pages H9717, H9731–32**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 3:40 p.m. and reconvened at 4:14 p.m. **Page H9742**

**Small Business Mergers, Acquisitions, Sales, and Brokerage Simplification Act of 2017:** The House

passed H.R. 477, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to exempt from registration brokers performing services in connection with the transfer of ownership of smaller privately held companies, by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 426 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 669. **Pages H9739–42, H9742–43**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–43 shall be considered as adopted. **Page H9722**

Agreed to:

Sherman amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–443) that makes several changes that provide additional protections for investors and small businesses, which will align the bill with a Securities and Exchange Commission no-action letter issued January 31, 2014; specifically the amendment includes provisions that would prohibit passive buyers in the M&A transaction, prohibit M&A brokers from binding a party to a transfer of ownership, prohibit M&A brokers from providing financing for the transfer, and require M&A brokers that represent both the buyer and seller to disclose that to both parties and receive written consent. **Pages H9741–42**

H. Res. 647, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 477) and (H.R. 3971) and the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 123) was agreed to by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 238 yeas to 188 nays, Roll No. 666, after the previous question was ordered by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 236 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 665. **Pages H9722–30**

**Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018:** The House passed H.J. Res. 123, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2018, by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 670. **Pages H9722–39, H9743**

H. Res. 647, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 477) and (H.R. 3971) and the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 123) was agreed to by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 238 yeas to 188 nays, Roll No. 666, after the previous question was ordered by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 236 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 665. **Pages H9722–30**

**Suspensions-Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Tuesday, December 5th.

*Expressing concern and condemnation over the political, economic, social, and humanitarian crisis in Venezuela:* H. Res. 259, amended, expressing concern and condemnation over the political, economic, social, and humanitarian crisis in Venezuela, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  ye-a-and-nay vote of 419 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 667; and **Pages H9730–31**

*Venezuela Humanitarian Assistance and Defense of Democratic Governance Act of 2017:* H.R. 2658, amended, to provide humanitarian assistance for the Venezuelan people, to defend democratic governance and combat widespread public corruption in Venezuela, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  ye-a-and-nay vote of 388 yeas to 29 nays, Roll No. 671. **Pages H9745–46**

**Admiral Lloyd R. “Joe” Vasey Pacific War Commemorative Display Establishment Act:** The House agreed to take from the Speaker’s table and pass H.R. 4300, to authorize Pacific Historic Parks to establish a commemorative display to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Pacific Theater of World War II. **Page H9746**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Monday, December 11th for Morning Hour debate. **Page H9746**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H9755.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Seven ye-a-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9729, H9730, H9730, H9731, H9742, H9743, and H9745. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### **THE MISSION OF THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “The Mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency”. Testimony was heard from Scott Pruitt, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

### **EXAMINING THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL RESEARCH**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining the Office of Financial Research”. Testimony was heard from Richard Berner, Director, Of-

fice of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury.

### **LEGISLATIVE MEASURES**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals for a More Efficient Federal Financial Regulatory Regime: Part II”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS IN AFRICA**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Counterterrorism Efforts in Africa”. Testimony was heard from John J. Sullivan, Deputy Secretary, Department of State; and David J. Trachtenberg, Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Department of Defense.

### **EXAMINING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY’S EFFORTS TO COUNTER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a hearing entitled “Examining the Department of Homeland Security’s Efforts to Counter Weapons of Mass Destruction”. Testimony was heard from James F. McDonnell, Assistant Secretary, Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction and Director, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, Department of Homeland Security; William Bryan, Acting Under Secretary, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; and Chris P. Currie, Director, Emergency Management, National Preparedness, and Critical Infrastructure Protection, Homeland Security and Justice Team, Government Accountability Office.

### **PREVENTING SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE: EXAMINING REFORMS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**

*Committee on House Administration:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Congressional Workplace: Examining Reforms to the Congressional Accountability Act”. Testimony was heard from Victoria A. Lipnic, Acting Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Susan Tsui Grundmann, Executive Director, Office of Compliance; Gloria Lett, Counsel, Office of House Employment Counsel; and a public witness.

### **OVERSIGHT OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Bureau of